engaged by the Delhi Telephones Headquarters and the Delhi Telephones since 1st January, 1991 alongwith amount paid to the vehicle owners and on their running maintenance;

(c) the justification for engaging such a large number of private vehicles; and

(d) what are the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken to discourage such type of expenditure by the Mahanagar Telephones Nigam Limited?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Sir, the total number of departmental vehicles with the Corporate Office of MTNL and with Delhi Telephones as on 31.1.92 are 16 and 392 respectively.

(b) The information is being compiled and will be placed on the Table of the House.

(c) Hiring of vehicles is done after due scrutiny taking into account utilisation of the fleet of departmental vehicles against sanctioned/justified vehciles as per standards. Normally vehicles are hired on temporary basis to cope up with the increased work load in view of tight commissioning programme for achieving the tough targets.

(d) Hiring of vehicles is resorted to meet the shortage of departmental vehicles only for unavoidable operational needs and based on norms and standards. The number of vehicles being hired is being kept under close scrutiny so as ensure that this is fully commensurate with the justification as per standards.

Tatkal Scheme for providing telephone connection

1885. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) wether Tatkal Scheme for providing telephone connections has been introduced;

(b) if so, since when; and

(c) what is the outcome of this scheme, if implemented?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, Tatkal Scheme for provision of telephone connections has been in operation since 10.6.1988.

(c) Those applicants who are in immediate need of telephone connection and are willing to pay a non-interest bearing deposit of Rs. 30,000/-can avail of new telephone connection under this scheme where ever feasible. The telephone connection is to be provided within two weeks by the department.

Delivery of Letters and Packets in Bombay

1886. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 88 given in the Rajya Sabha on 25th February, 1992 and state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the Bombay High Courts's decision in regard to non-delivery of letter and dak over and above second floor in Bombay and other places;

(b) what is the extent to which it is being implemented;

(c) what is the direction of the High Court; and

(d) whether Government have preferred an appeal against the High Court in the Supreme Court or not?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir, the Government are aware of the decision of the Bombay High Court on the proposed scheme of delivery of unregistered mail to addresses in storyed buildings, through Mail Box.

(b) The decison is being complied with;

(c) The direction of the High Court is that the Department of posts should present to the Court, as submitted before the Court on behalf of the Department of Posts, modifications in the scheme of delivery through Mail Box, taking into consideration all aspects of the matter, before May 1, 1992, and that till then, the scheme shall not be operated on Greater Bombay except in respect of those who voluntarily comply.

(d) Does not arise, as this Order of the